May 4, 2011

Ms. Sylvia McClellan Assistant City Attorney City of Dallas 1400 South Lamar Dallas, Texas 75215

OR2011-06059

Dear Ms. McClellan:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 416436 (DPD Request No. 2011-1216).

The Dallas Police Department (the "department") received a request for any text messages, e-mails, memos, police records, and blackberry pin messages sent to or from a named department deputy chief regarding the arrest of a named individual. You claim that the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.117 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted representative sample of information.¹

Initially, we note a portion of the submitted information, which we have marked, is not responsive to the instant request for information because it is not a text message, e-mail, memo, police record, or blackberry pin message sent to or from the named department deputy chief. This ruling does not address the public availability of any information that is not responsive to the request, and the department is not required to release any such information in response to this request.

Section 552.117(a)(1) of the Government Code excepts from disclosure the current and former home addresses and telephone numbers, social security numbers, and family member

¹We assume the "representative sample" of records submitted to this office is truly representative of the requested records as a whole. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 499 (1988), 497 (1988). This open records letter does not reach, and therefore does not authorize the withholding of, any other requested records to the extent those records contain substantially different types of information than that submitted to this office.

information of current or former officials or employees of a governmental body who request that this information be kept confidential under section 552.024 of the Government Code. See Gov't Code § 552.117(a)(1). However, section 552.117 protects the personal information of an employee only in the context of his or her role as an employee of the governmental body. You seek to withhold the submitted information in its entirety under section 552.117 because it pertains to a City of Dallas councilwoman. You have not informed us, however, nor can we discern from the submitted information, how the department maintains this information in an employment context. Accordingly, we find section 552.117 of the Government Code does not apply in this situation and the department may not withhold any portion of the submitted information on that basis. As you raise no further exceptions to disclosure, the submitted information must be released to the requestor.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at http://www.oag.state.tx.us/open/index_orl.php, or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act must be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the Office of the Attorney General, toll free at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,

Andrea L. Caldwell Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

ALC/eeg

Ref: ID# 416436

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor (w/o enclosures)